

In a message dated 98-06-12 15:26:45 EDT, cit...@mindspring.com writes:

}

} I appreciate all the positive responses to "The Great Manhunt: Is it just
} me??". Of course, there were a few in law enforcement and your resident
} socialist oxygen thieves who assumed that I was rooting for the bad guys
and

} hoping more police would be killed. Not only were your claims not true, but
} most of those rantings were graciously placed in the appropriate trash bin.

} But when a few "militia members" complained about the fact that I was
trying

} to tie the suspects to the militia, or portraying the militia in a bad
} light, this is a reason for clarify a few points here.

}

} First of all, I did use a bit of a flippant attitude while giving my
} opinions on the situation. This was done in part to demonstrate the
complete

} absurdity of what was going on in the Four Corners area. Perhaps a more
} serious look at what's going on over there might explain what "beef" I have
} with the whole operation.

}

} 1. Open-ended law-enforcement deployment policy.

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} This was my main grievance (and still is) . The Colorado governor had to
} declare an emergency to fund a bunch of beat cops (no insult intended) to
go

} on a wilderness adventure. Speaking as a person who had just passed through
} the area recently, this open-ended policy was absolutely stupid, or it
} represents an abrupt change in law enforcement tactics. Anyone with regular
} eyesight could see that it would take a well-trained army to negotiate this
} type of terrain. Besides, aren't we endangering the lives of civilian law
} enforcement by putting them in harm's way when they aren't' properly trained
} for it?

}

} As also stated, "What happened to the old days when you would just find
} these suspect's faces on post offices around the country and be done with
} it?" Not only is the stack of wanted persons in the post office gradually
} approaching the size of a metropolitan phone book, but even in today's
} western museums, will still see the old posters which read "WANTED: DEAD OR
} ALIVE...", and you can fill in the blank. It was back in those days when
law

} enforcement would encourage citizen participation in finding wanted
} criminals, instead of today's policy of every law abiding citizen in the
} area being suspect without probable cause. True, it was a crude way of
} fighting crime back them, but it did bring law to the lawless in a vast
} hostile territory. Today, even the media is complaining about some of the
} violations of citizens' right that are taking place there.

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2. Using the "militia" label.

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Believe it or not, I cannot (and did not) accuse the media of pinning that label on these suspects. In fact, it was Colorado Governor Roy Romer (a.k.a.

DNC chief) who first made the statement, "...We have evidence that ties these individuals to the Four Corners Militia". I actually should give credit to the media sources who cleared up the fact that this was not true.

Still, it didn't stop the socialist stooges from hurling their biased regurgitation toward the news wires. After all, they really aren't good at anything else. I should also mention that a local police spokesman used the phrase "militia types" when describing the suspects. To you folks in law enforcement who had a problem with my last essay: Are we supposed to stand by

people who make slanted statements such as these? Since this obviously wasn't true, why should we trust anything else they say?

}

But just for the sake of argument, let's throw the militia concept into the equation. What we have here is wanted suspects in crimes where there alleged

victims. They are considered armed and dangerous. From what I've learned, the "militia" way of handling it would be to arm every citizen, make the photos of the bad guys public and trusting the citizen help bring them to justice to blow them away on sight - with a healthy reward as the motivator.

}

}

Any disagreement from the militia camp?

I didn't think so.

But, no. The "federal" way of dealing with this is to set up unnecessary roadblocks, point loaded shotguns into the cars of innocent travelers, and find new and improved ways of violating the Bill of Rights and the sovereignty of an Indian Nation. And of course demonize ANYONE who dare draw attention to the stupidity of it all.

By the way, recent Denver Post stories have covered the fact that many of the residents in the affected areas are in fact armed and ready to take out these suspects. Bravo.

3. Jurisdiction.

Did it ever dawn on anyone that this area of America is Navajo Country? I

} clearly saw SUV's driven by armed Navajo Indians who regularly police their
} own turf. So why the multi- jurisdictional task force? Let me put it this
} way: I live in Nevada near the California border. I'm also about 100 miles
} from Arizona. If a member of my family was killed by some fugitive, could I
} expect a tri-state contingency of armor wearing, camouflaged agents to
} assist in his capture? I think not. That's why I made reference to the Jon
} Bonet Ramsey case. It's called "selective enforcement".
}
}
}

} Which bring me to my final point - the testosterone enhanced mind set of
too

} many in law enforcement. If some of you boys-in-black (er...I mean blue)
out

} there got a little miffed at my previous post, the rest of this should
} *really* get your panties in a wad.
}

} NOTE: I am certainly not referring to all in law enforcement.
}

} One of the post I received (giving me the devil - his words) referred to
the

} suspects as "cop killers". The same phrase was used in another flame which
} also suggested for that reason, we should all give all those badge-wearing
} folks a blank check and a blind eye over whatever transpires next in Navajo
} country. Someone even when so far as to say the I was "advocating that more
} cops be killed".
}

} No doubt you guys and gals have been getting briefed in your squad rooms
} just like we've been reading the wire services. And the stories are
becoming

} all too familiar. What am I saying? There is no need for me to advocate
what

} has become self-evident. Some of your arrogant, high-and- mighty, holier
} than thou, refusal to dis-engage attitudes has resulted in an unusual
number

} of targets being painted on your foreheads. Don't blame me for it! I didn't
} make the rules. This is called "unintended consequences".
}

} We tried to tell you to simply obey your oath, but NO! Instead we watch
your

} bosses justify virtually every murder your "colleagues" commit, followed by
} lobbying our legislators for more manpower, more firepower, and less
} restrictions on your behavior, while at the same time insist that we have
to

} wait 5 days before we can even defend ourselves- but only with a weapon
} approved by you first. C'mon guys, admit it. Doesn't this sound a bit one-
} sided?

}

} And about those "cop killers" being more dangerous than any other species on

} earth: Does the phrase "equal protection under the law" mean anything to

you

} these days? A killer is a killer is a killer. It doesn't make a difference

} who the victim is. That badge doesn't make you any more or less human than

} me. "We have to do whatever it takes to protect our brave officers in the

} field- Constitution be damned!" I'm personally sick of hearing that silly

} excuse to violate the law. What about MY protection?? What about my

rights??

} I don't recall voting for any of this!!

}

} Now I watch as these pathetic politicians and police chiefs are now going

} nuts because the "snake" they've created is biting them back in the tail.

} They pass law after law making each one of us criminals by default. Three

} strikes- you're out. Victim-less crimes. Mandatory minimums. Trials without

} juries. Torturing political prisoners. Military training and equipment for

} local law enforcement. Even trying to get Congress to ban body armor to

} civilians. If you think that the polls were in your favor, then you

} obviously didn't poll everybody.

}

} (Oh...Did I mention using tanks against a church and blowing a un-armed

} woman's head off while she's holding her infant - and getting away with

it?)

}

} The greatest threat to law enforcement safety is not the criminal, the

} survivalist, the terrorist, or some rogue militiaman. It's the attitude of

} their superiors. Somewhere down the line, too many of you forgot who was

} paying your salaries. You took the phrase "Protect and Serve" and

translated

} into "protect" yourselves and "serve" the government. Since most

governments

} today insist on stealing more tax dollars than we're willing to give,

} law-abiding citizens have become suspect of crimes with the size of their

} wallets determining the level of guilt.

}

} What did you expect would happen when you continually act outside the scope

} of your duties? When you lobbied to get all those laws pass against regular

} citizens to stop the criminals you forgot something: Criminals don't obey

} the law. If they obeyed laws, they wouldn't be criminals (T. Sowell). Thus,

} we are all at the mercy of a "911" call. Sorry, but bullets travel a lot

} faster than those three digits.

}

} Go ahead. Call me names. Frankly, I would rather see no person get hurt or

} killed while doing their job. But when I was a utility worker, we knew the

} dangers of our job. Even if and when our supervisors repeatedly gave us

} assignments that were darn near fatal, we bent the "rules", played it safe,
} got the job done, and lived to collect the paycheck. That's why they called
} us "professionals". What about you?
}
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} And Finally, I don't agree with most of what "militia types" do, but I
} understand why they were formed. While you may have learned that most are
} just "terrorists", I have learned that most of them just want to be free
and
} not be subjected to "terrorism". If that frightens you, or sounds
} intimidating, then maybe you should take a look in the mirror.
}
}
} It is EVERYONE'S responsibility to fight crime. Not just law enforcement.
If
} we want effective neighborhood block watch programs, more co-operation with
} the public, and safe streets over all, then stop putting yourselves on
} pedestals, and start "doing unto others, as you would do unto yourself".
The
} citizens of this country are more than willing to be your friends. Maybe
} it's time to put some *citizens* in charge of law enforcement for a while...
}
}
} ...And I plan on doing just that.
}
}
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